

## CHAPTER 423

## (House Bill 7)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 48 of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "State Department of Public Welfare," subtitle "Aid to Dependent Children," and to add new Sections 44A and 48A to said Article and subtitle of the Code (1957 Edition and 1962 Supplement), to immediately precede Section 45 thereof and to follow immediately after Section 48 thereof, respectively; relating generally to the State program of financial assistance to dependent children, declaring the public policy of that program, and providing that such assistance shall not be given to children who are apparently neglected within the meaning of the applicable law of juvenile causes except during investigation and juvenile court proceedings to determine the existence of such neglect, and while the court, after determining that neglect exists, permits the child to remain in the home under supervision, and during any period that the court fails for any reason to dispose of the petition, or the local unit inadvertently fails to file a petition alleging neglect; and directing local welfare boards in all cases of neglect to notify the child's custodian of the improper conditions, to give such custodian up to ~~thirty~~ NINETY days to correct any such defects, and, failing correction, to file a petition, no later than at the expiration of the ~~thirty~~ NINETY day period, in the appropriate juvenile court asserting the child's neglect.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 48 of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "State Department of Public Welfare," subtitle "Aid to Dependent Children," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and new Sections 44A and 48A be and they are hereby added to said Article and subtitle (1957 Edition and 1962 Supplement), to immediately precede Section 45 thereof, to follow immediately after Section 48 thereof, respectively, and to read as follows:

## 44A.

*It is hereby declared that the primary purpose of aid given under this subtitle is the strengthening of family life through services and financial aid, whereby families may be assisted to maximum self-support within a reasonable time in homes meeting the requirements for child care established by law in this State.*

48. Assistance shall be given under the subtitle to any dependent child who:

(a) Has resided in this State for one year immediately preceding the application for such assistance; or who was born within one year immediately preceding the application, if the parent or other relative with whom the child is living has resided in this State for one year immediately preceding the birth of said child; or whose parent has resided in this State for one year immediately preceding the date of application; provided, however, that the State Department is authorized and empowered to make reciprocal arrangements with other states to waive residence requirements when, in their judgment,